Writable Case Study

SAVA of GCC
GATEWAY COMMUNITY CHARTERS
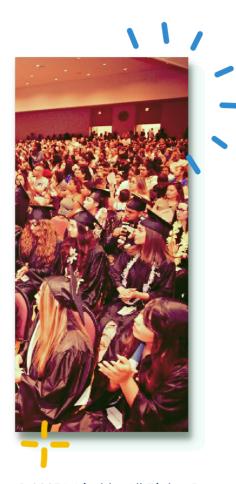
Facts

- 7-12 Public Charter Network
- 3 Schools
- 1K Students
- 1:1 Devices
- Blended Learning Model
- LMS: Classroom & Canvas
- savacharterschools.org

About

Sacramento Academic & Vocational Academy are free, public charter schools offering a personalized education path for every student. Instead of the traditional one-size-fits-all classroom, they seek to motivate and encourage students to be independent learners. With their blended-learning model each student receives individualized instruction and support. This personal attention and guidance is often the crucial ingredient to student success.

SAVA is overseen and managed by Gateway Community Charters, Inc. GCC is an independent non-profit 501(c)3 agency that was created to support students, parents and communities through the conception, development, administration and governance of innovative, high quality, standards-based educational opportunities within charter school constructs.

GCC reaches out to the greater Sacramento County community to create schools to serve the educational needs of the under served. This includes the disenfranchised, culturally diverse, economically disadvantaged, homeless, parenting teens, working young adults, fifth year seniors, English language learners and others.

Goals

The SAVA curriculum team came to Writable with a plea to help save teachers time on grading while improving alignment between learning goals and how these goals were demonstrated on both school-wide and personalized writing assessments.

Curriculum leaders Tyler Madden and Christina Smith started with a single request that grew into a multi-year relationship, spanning rubric development, team grading features, and shared assessments.

Solution

Writable's curriculum team began by wanting to better understand how teachers were evaluating student work. Because of SAVA's need to facilitate a large group grading session and monitor growth, Writable first helped the team develop and launch a common rubric for use in their benchmark assessments. Once the rubric was established, SAVA asked Writable to build a more efficient workflow for group grading and calibration. This went on to become Writable's "Team Grade" feature, which allows school leaders to create 'grading teams' that evaluate student student work and help norm teacher grading by standard, skill, and rubric item.

The following school year, the SAVA team wanted to build on their success with their common writing benchmark and grading and feedback momentum by using Writable to support their personalized approach to instruction, which allows students to complete and finish assignments in a unique path. Curriculum leaders created their Edgenuity end-of-unit assessments in Writable. Each assessment was built with scaffolding such as graphic organizers, models, and rubrics that supported their high English learner and IEP student population.

Throughout their implementation, SAVA leaders posed the question: "How can we keep teachers focused on instruction and not class and assignment setup?" In response to this goal, Writable built "shared assessments", which allow a curriculum creator to assign an assessment directly to students. Teachers can monitor progress and grade writing after students have submitted, spending time on quality feedback, not logistical set up.

Moving forward, SAVA teachers have begun creating their own original assignments using Writable's assignment wizard, and are using varied types of feedback, such as self review, RevisionAid (AI feedback), and Originality Check from Turnitin, as they evaluate student work.

Results

- Supported 1k students over multiple years with scaffolded assessments & more efficient feedback.
- Saved teachers classroom and grading time through common rubrics & shared assessments sent directly to their students.
- Saved the SAVA curriculum team countless hours in building and distributing common writing benchmarks and unified curriculum.
- Improved instruction through more defined expectations on writing skills.
- Supported best practices of re-teaching through the use of Writable monitoring tools.